

FISCAL NOTE

TO: Chief Clerk of the Senate
Chief Clerk of the House

FROM: James A. Davenport, Executive Director

DATE: February 19, 1996

SUBJECT: **SB 2114 - HB 2859**

This bill, if enacted, will give to the State Board of Education the duty to promulgate rules and regulations requiring each public school classroom in grades kindergarten through 12 to have working two-way communications systems in order for teachers and other employees to notify a principal, supervisor or other administrator of an emergency. Teachers and other employees must be notified of emergency procedures prior to the beginning of classes for any school year.

The fiscal impact from enactment of this bill is estimated to be an increase in local government expenditures*. If state board rules and regulations were written to require that two-way communications systems be installed in all new school construction, such increase will be not significant. However, if the rules and regulations required retrofitting of all classrooms, an expense of between \$150 and \$1,000 per existing classroom would be required, depending on the age and condition of buildings and wiring requirements. Several school officials have estimated that no more than 10% of classrooms are presently equipped with two-way communications systems. With approximately 40,000 classrooms in the state, this would mean that approximately 36,000

classrooms would have to be retrofitted with the two-way communication systems. Under this assumption, local expenditures are estimated to increase between \$5.4 million and \$36 million.

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James A. Davenport". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

James A. Davenport, Executive Director

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*